

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

## University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

---

Curriculum Committee Minutes

Curriculum Committee

---

10-29-2020

### Curriculum minutes 10/29/2020

Curriculum Committee

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/curriculum>

---

#### Recommended Citation

Curriculum Committee, "Curriculum minutes 10/29/2020" (2020). *Curriculum Committee Minutes*. 382. <https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/curriculum/382>

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Curriculum Committee at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Curriculum Committee Minutes by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact [skulann@morris.umn.edu](mailto:skulann@morris.umn.edu).

## **UMN Morris Curriculum Committee**

October 29, 2020, 1:00 p.m. Meeting #9

Zoom

Members Present: Janet Ericksen (Chair), Stacey Aronson, Barbara Burke, Rebecca Dean, Jennifer Deane, Nic McPhee, Marcus Muller, Ben Narvaez, Peh Ng, Michelle Page, Shanda Pittman, Emily Wittkop

Members Absent: John Barber, Cameron Berthiaume, Simón Franco, Stephen Gross,

Others present: Jayne Hacker, Emma Kloos, Sam Rosemark, Jeri Squier, Robyn VanEps

### **In these minutes: Catalog changes Division of Humanities**

#### #1 Welcome and announcements

The need for another off-cycle meeting--next week, on Thursday, Nov. 5--will be determined by how much is covered in today's meeting as well as by any additional feedback on the writing requirement revision proposals.

#### #2 Catalog changes - Humanities

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for Language, second by McPhee. No new courses. Proposed revision to 4 courses (1062, 1063, 1064, 1066) to move grading option from S/N to Student Option. This change is a result of extensive discussion about and with SUFE students. McPhee asked about removing "max of 4 credits" from 1062 and 1063. It is being removed because it can be taken more times if the student chooses A/F. Motion approved (7-0-0).

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for Music, second by McPhee. Burke asked about concert attendance credits. Squier clarified the reason for 0 credits for Music Performance Lab (previously Concert Attendance). It used to be a one credit course, but students were running over the credit limit. The course is primarily a tracking mechanism. Music is making revisions to 27 courses. Motion approved (8-0-0).

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for Philosophy, second by Narvaez. Two courses are moving from 2xxx to 1xxx to better reflect their introductory nature. Four courses are changing GenEd designators from HUM to E/CR; their emphasis is on ethics (as reflected in the course titles), and the history of the HUM choice is now distant and unclear. Additional 21 courses have small housekeeping changes. Two courses are being deactivated. Narvaez asked if too many 1xxx level courses are being accepted for the major. Squier clarified that the changes do not impact the upper level courses required. Ng supports GenEd designator changes. Motion approved (8-0-0).

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for Theatre Arts, second by Deane. Two courses, 2113 and 2114, are seeking regular approval. One course is moving from 4xxx to 3xxx

to try to increase interest in the course by making it more accessible. Two courses are being deactivated. Theatre Arts will now only have one 4xxx level course, which is the senior seminar. McPhee asked if such a limited offering at the 4xxx level is unusual. Many disciplines offer only the capstone course at that level. Motion approved (8-0-0).

ENGL 2162 - Careers for Writers - is coming back as a motion from Humanities with a revised course description requested and a reiterated request to be approved with the HUM GenEd designator. Seconded by McPhee. Aronson shared the additional documentation provided by English. Comparison was made between the description for ENGL 2162 and CMR courses that carry the HUM designator. Dean commented that the HUM outcomes are not easy to assess. This course doesn't completely align with the GenEd designator, but the issues can be readdressed when/if the GenEd structure is adjusted. Ng asked for clarification about the new description and feels that she can support the proposal based on the new description. Motion approved (7-0-1).

Motion from Humanities to further discuss French 1002 to count toward the major. McPhee seconded. Additional rationale was provided from French. They hope this change will encourage students to stick with the major. They are experiencing students with very little prior instruction--French has been dropped from many high school offerings--and hope allowing 1002 to count toward the major will increase participation. Narvaez expressed his concern about a language major not being proficient in the language. McPhee commented that this approach does fit with the way other majors utilize introductory courses. Ng asked about catalog policy not allowing introductory courses to count toward the 40 credit limit. If the proposed change contradicts policy, can an exception be made? Squier was unable to find any relevant restriction in the current catalog policy statements. Deane supported a friendly amendment to approve as long as it doesn't violate system policy. Students expressed their support. Motion approved (7-1-0).

French would also like to allow up to 8 credits of S/N to count toward the major. OTR confirmed that Study Abroad courses have A/F grading so this doesn't apply to this situation. McPhee expressed concern that the rationale given could apply to many majors and so isn't a great justification. Wittkop expressed she would not support that many credits as S/N. Ericksen commented that S/N grading in the major may be a broader topic that needs more discussion. Other majors may feel impacted by this type of change being allowed. Ng commented that S/N may set up students for failure if professional programs do not accept S/N grades. University policy only allows 25% of credits toward graduation to be S/N. Muller commented that students ultimately need to determine how grades will impact them. Dean supports giving a few more "pros" to French. Narvaez questioned the rationale for the policy of allowing 25% of credits to be S/N. McPhee added that the S/N could be used by students who are expanding their boundaries and are concerned about their GPA. He reiterated that a larger conversation would be the appropriate next step. Aronson expressed concern about an all-or-nothing decision from a broader conversation. Evaluating specific requests from majors would not disrupt what other majors are doing. Wittkop reiterated that students need to be responsible for choosing S/N but

does feel that further discussion for a larger audience. Ericksen noted that time has run out and doesn't wish to rush this discussion.

The Writing Requirement will be cleaned up and shared prior to the meeting next week. A recommendation from the Curriculum Committee will be on the next Campus Assembly agenda.